

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 PM-05 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00
EB-08 L-03 /093 W
-----005811 071958Z /47

R 071559Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4730
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 1358

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR EEWT EMIN MO UR
SUBJECT: MOROCCAN-SOVIET RELATIONS: PRIMIN TO VISIT MOSCOW

REF: RABAT 1179

1. PRIMIN OSMAN WILL LEAVE FOR MOSCOW MARCH 9 TO SIGN MESKALA PHOSPHATE AND PRESUMABLY ANNUAL TRADE ACCORD, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACCORD, AND "POSSIBLE" (ACCORDING TO FONOFF SOURCE) FISHING ACCORD. ACCORDING TO SOURCE CLOSE TO PRIMIN'S OFFICE, OSMAN WILL BE IN MOSCOW TWO DAYS AND VISIT LENINGRAD FOR TWO DAYS. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD ELSEWHERE THAT HE MAY STOP IN CAIRO ON HIS WAY BACK. AFOREMENTIONED SOURCE SAID THAT GOM, UNNERVED BY UNCERTAINTIES OF UPCOMING FRENCH ELECTIONS AND BY PERCEIVED U.S. INDECISION ON SAHARA ARMS ISSUE, WILL ATTEMPT TO ANGLE FOR POSITIVE SOUNDING COMMUNIQUE, ONE THAT WILL AT LEAST RIVAL SOVIET-ALGERIAN COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FOLLOWING RECENT BOUMEDIENE VISIT TO MOSCOW.

2. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE GOM IS LIKELY IN COMING WEEKS TO
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ENHANCE ITS EFFORTS TO LURE THE SOVIETS INTO "TRUER" NEUTRALITY ON THE SAHARA. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE KING HAS AGAIN URGED OPPOSITION SOCIALIST PARTY (USFP) LEADER BOUABID TO ENTER THE GOVERNMENT. (USFP SOURCES TELL US THAT PARTY NOT EXPECTED TO RESPOND BEFORE LATE MARCH.) USFP PARTICIPATION WOULD THEORETICALLY MAKE MOROCCO'S IMAGE MORE PALATABLE TO BOTH EUROPEAN LEFTISTS AND TO THE SOVIETS IN THE UNCERTAIN PERIOD

AHEAD. A MOROCCAN DECISION TO BE MORE ATTENTIVE TO MOSCOW
AND THE EUROPEAN LEFT COULD ALSO RESULT IN POSITIONING
WHICH WOULD IMPACT ON THE GOM'S DEALINGS WITH THE U.S.
ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 07 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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